

FISCAL NOTE
SB 735 - HB 556

March 26, 2001

SUMMARY OF BILL:

1. Creates the State Parks Management and Preservation Act of 2001 which establishes an administrative board of conservation to be known as the Tennessee State Parks Commission, composed of 14 members. Members shall serve without pay will receive actual and necessary travel expenses for 4 regular meetings each year and not more than 4 called meetings during any one year. They shall also be paid tactual and necessary travel expenses for attending other commission business as approved by the chair.
2. Creates a state parks agency to perform the duties and functions relating to state parks formerly held by the division of state parks in the Department of Environment and Conservation, except for the duties and powers conferred upon the state parks commission. The executive director of the state parks commission shall also serve as executive director of the state parks agency.
3. Provides that funding shall be accomplished using existing funds from funds appropriated to the Department of Environment and Conservation by the General Assembly and using existing personnel and equipment resources.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Less Than \$100,000

Other Fiscal Impact - Transfers funding estimated at \$60,346,000, of which \$28,528,000 are state appropriations and \$31,818,000 are revenues received from users of park facilities, from the Department of Environment and Conservation to the newly created Tennessee State Parks Agency. Also transfers 1,028 full time positions, 174 part-time positions and 614 seasonal positions from Environment and Conservation to the newly created agency.

Estimate assumes:

- an increase in state expenditures for travel reimbursement for members of the commission and other expenditures relating to establishing a separate agency to manage state parks.
- the executive director of the state parks agency will replace the existing director of the division of state parks.
- the increase in state expenditures is estimated to be less than \$100,000, which assumes transfer of all existing resources and personnel, as required by the bill, without major changes to the state parks' program.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

SB 735 - HB 556